Application Serial No. 10/541,599 Attorney Docket No. 10191/4026 Reply to Office Action of October 14, 2008

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) A device for triggering at least one of (1) at least one deceleration device and (2) at least one output-determining actuator element of a vehicle propulsion system, the device comprising:

a first surroundings sensing device for providing longitudinal value-optimized measured values;

a second surroundings sensing device for providing object lateral extension-optimized measured values; and

an analyzer device for receiving output signals of the first and second surroundings sensing devices, and for using the measured values of both the first and second surroundings sensing devices for at least one of (a) object identification and (b) triggering of at least one of (1) the at least one deceleration device and (2) the at least one output-determining actuator element of the propulsion system;

wherein one of: (a) the measured values of the second surroundings sensing device are used for at least one of verification and provision of additional information in analyzing the measured values of the first surroundings sensing device; and (b) the measured values of the first surroundings sensing device are used for at least one of verification and provision of additional information in analyzing the measured values of the second surroundings sensing device.

13. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 12, wherein the device is for at least one of an automatic longitudinal vehicle regulation and an object identification.

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14. (Canceled).
15. (Canceled).
16. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 13, wherein the longitudinal vehicle regulation provides for automatic vehicle deceleration to be at least one of triggered and performed to at least one of: avoid a collision and alleviate a severity of a collision.
17. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 12, wherein the first surroundings sensing device is a radar transceiver device.
18. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 12, wherein the first surroundings sensing device is a lidar transceiver device.
19. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 12, wherein the second surroundings sensing device is an image detection system.
20. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 19, wherein the image detection system includes a monocular video camera.
21. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 19, wherein the image detection system includes a stereo video camera.

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22. (Currently Amended) A method for triggering at least one of (1) at least one deceleration device and (2) at least one output-determining actuator element of a vehicle propulsion system, the method comprising:

receiving in an analyzer device output signals of a first surroundings sensing device and a second surroundings sensing device, the first surroundings sensing device providing longitudinal value-optimized measured values, and the second surroundings sensing device providing object lateral extension-optimized measured values;

using the measured values of both the first and second surroundings sensing devices for object identification, wherein one of: (a) the measured values of the second surroundings sensing device are used for at least one of verification and provision of additional information in analyzing the measured values of the first surroundings sensing device; and (b) the measured values of the first surroundings sensing device are used for at least one of verification and provision of additional information in analyzing the measured values of the second surroundings sensing device; and

activating at least one of (1) at least one deceleration device and (2) at least one output-determining actuator element of the propulsion system as a function of a determined surroundings situation.

- 23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the method is for automatic longitudinal vehicle regulation.
- 24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the longitudinal vehicle regulation provides for automatic vehicle deceleration to be at least one of triggered and performed to at least one of: avoid a collision and alleviate a severity of a collision.